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Pacific Coast Avifauna No. 1:

BIRDS OF THE KOTZEBUE SOUND REGION ALASKA, BY JOS. GRINNELL.

This publication constitutes the first of a series of special papers to be issued by the Cooper Ornithological Club and is now ready for distribution. The paper deals with a region which has latterly become possessed of unusual interest from an ornithological standpoint, resulting from the increased activity of scientists within its limits. *Pacific Coast Avifauna No. 1* consists of four parts, Introduction, Field-Notes, Bibliography and Checklist; it contains 80 pages of text of the size of this magazine and is supplemented with a three page map.

The paper recites the author's experiences among the birds during a twelve month's stay in the Kotzebue Sound region, the biographies in many cases being extended and of great interest and value. Notes on the nidification and life-history of 113 species and sub-species are given in the Field-Notes, embracing such birds as the Short-billed Gull, Red Phalarope, Alaskan Pine Grosbeak, White-winged Crossbill, Alaskan Jay, Varied Thrush, Red-spotted Bluethroat and numerous other species of special interest. The publication reflects Mr. Grinnell's painstaking work and pleasing style of expression, and should find a place in every ornithological library.

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Bird Notes From Tacoma Gulches

BY J. H. BOWLES.

THIS form of bird study is among the most difficult of any I have ever attempted, and a few words of description may not come amiss. These gulches or ravines were undoubtedly caused by glacial action, are often several miles long, and all run into Puget Sound. They vary from 80 to 100 feet in depth, have small trout brooks running through them, and are filled with underbrush and debris of all descriptions. In many places the bottoms are well wooded with fir and cedar.

The difficulties of thoroughly searching such places may easily be imagined, but they fade rapidly before the abundance of bird life to be found. A sketch of a trip taken May 9, 1898, will give a fairly typical day. First to strike the oological eye were the high, perpendicular clay walls, with here and there the nesting holes of the Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*), and Belted Kingfisher (*Ceryle alcyon*), the former bird only digging a nest for itself when all burrows of the latter are tenanted. These nests are almost invariably inaccessible, as they vary in height from forty to seventy feet above one's reach.

While gazing at them with regretful longing, the stillness was suddenly broken by the beautiful, bell-like warble of the Western Winter Wren (*Anorthura*

hiemalis pacifica)—to my mind one of the most charming singers of the northwest. Then I knew my work was cut out, for within half a mile must be his nest, which, together with its contents, would make a most welcome addition to my collection. I walked to the edge of the brook and, after traveling a short distance along it, the way was blocked by a giant fir that, in falling years before, had split in the middle. From deep in this split appeared suspicious-looking twigs, but past experience had taught me not to expect the real nest within a hundred yards of a singing Winter Wren. Nor was I mistaken this time, for it proved to be nothing more than a well-built "decoy," about which the bird made a very natural "bluff" of anxiety.

The tree being fully six feet in diameter and covered with vegetation of all kinds, my climb over it was accomplished with considerable noise, and on sliding down on the other side I was promptly greeted with an angry buzz. It proved to come from a female Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*), and seldom have I seen such an atom of concentrated rage. A close inspection of the vicinity showed her to have good grounds for anger, as in my slide I had passed within a few inches of her nest with its set of two eggs. It was saddled

against a dead hanging twig in the midst of the tangle. After making a background of newspapers I took a photograph, cleared away my debris and retired to watch her. She had cooled down considerably and it was but a short time before she flew above her nest, hovered over it for a second or two and then dropped into it like a stone. This I have found to be the invariable custom of the Hummers when going to the nest, and as nests are frequently found having one or both eggs broken, this habit appears to me to be a very possible cause.

Leaving her with her treasures I continued up the brook, finding two more decoy nests of the wrens in the roots of fallen trees, a nest of Rusty Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia guttata*) with four well-grown young and another with four fresh eggs. A female Lutescent Warbler (*Helminthophila c. lutescens*) assured me that her nest was close by, but she would not go to it and I could not find it myself. Then I noticed a most interesting trick of Steller's Jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri*). These birds do not nest in the gulches, but fly down into them in search of what food they happen to come across and as much mischief as a most fertile ingenuity can bring about. I watched one of these for some time, my attention being attracted to him by his squabbling with a squirrel, probably over a nut from the latter's store. But right for once prevailed and the jay, with a burst of harsh, laughing notes, flew to the lower branches of a patriarchal cedar. After enjoying his last joke for a short while, he seemed to have had enough of the ravine and followed the jays' time-honored custom of getting out of it. Being much too lazy to fly, he hopped to the branch above him and continued leisurely upward in this manner until reaching the very top. This brought him above the level of the upper edge of the gulch, to which he flew in search of further sport.

This was some 200 yards from where

the wren was heard singing and I knew my chances of success in that direction should be reaching a focus. Consequently a half-uprooted fir tree some few yards further on, gave me a thrill of more than usual interest. The opening under the roots extended in about ten feet and was only three feet high at the entrance, so there was nothing for it but to imitate the serpent. The wren had left me long since and nothing stirred when I shook the roots, therefore my hopes were high, as these wrens are never seen near their eggs. After crawling in as far as possible, I turned over on my back and waited for my eyes to become accustomed to the darkness. As things gradually took shape, almost the first thing I saw was the much hoped-for ball of twigs and green moss directly over my head. It was wedged in among the earth and roots, and a feather protruding from the entrance told me that my search had reached a satisfactory end—the decoy nests are never lined. The set consisted of six partially incubated eggs, and only one more decoy was found, this being a short distance further on in a long-neglected placer mine.

Upon coming to a slope in the side of the gulch I decided to climb out, and had barely started upward when another Rufous Hummer flushed from her nest on a drooping fir bough. As I merely stopped long enough to note the two eggs and construction of the nest, the bird returned to it at once. This she did in the same manner as the first one, and with quite as much apparent desire to utterly destroy the contents of the nest.

My last find was made shortly before arriving at the top, at a very steep and bare place where I could barely climb even with the aid of an impromptu alpine-stock. Almost out of reach was a dead fir stump about three feet high, and from force of habit I hit it with my stick. As if shot from a gun, a Vigor's Wren (*Thryomanes bewicki spilurus*) went straight up into the air about

thirty feet, and then darted into a small patch of brush near by. The nest was placed in a natural hollow in the stump and held six very handsome eggs. It was beautifully made, being composed of cedar bark with a lining of many different colored feathers. I was some time in taking this nest, for I removed the entire section of the stump in which it was placed, and the actions of the owners contrasted strongly with those of the Winter Wrens. The latter, as usual, never gave any sign that they were alive, but both male and female Vigor's Wrens protested for all their name implied. Their note was a harsh deep "chuck," far louder than I should ever credited to so small a bird.

But the male decided it was not worth so much trouble, and soon flew to the top of a bush where he sang until I left. Again I was surprised at the volume of sound, the note resembling that of *Anorthura h. pacifica* in a general way, but being many times louder and greatly lacking in delicacy of fiber. I listened for a full quarter hour, as he made very short intervals between songs, and then turned homeward, having completed one of my favorite trips among the birds.

Chipmunks.

The observations of Mr. Williams at Independence Lake as recorded in the Sept.-October CONDOR were a surprise to me, as I had never suspected the chipmunks of harming birds, nor did I think they were carnivorous, though I had been told that the larger one, Say's Chipmunk, would sometimes kill and eat the Large-eared Chipmunk, but having seen many cages of pets which contained both species dwelling together in peace, I doubted the carnivorous propensity of *T. sayi*. These are the species which are found at Independence Lake.

Scarcity of food may have been the cause of their exceptional (?) behavior at Independence Lake which, like other

damp localities in the Sierras, at 7000 feet altitude, or approximately that, is subject to frequent summer frosts. The past summer was an unfruitful one in these mountains from about 6,500 feet upward. The sunflower, gooseberries, seeds of the lupines, acorn of the dwarf oak, in fact all seeds and berries, with slight exception, were destroyed by frost before they matured.

Birds are unaccountably scarce in the timber belt of the Sierras and also in most of the agricultural districts of California. My belief has been that birds which nest on the ground oftener succeed in rearing their young than those which build in bushes and trees. I have seen at least a hundred nests of the junco and can only remember one that was disturbed by bird or animal, the exception being a nest that contained four young which were killed by a gopher snake. The majority of these nests were between 4,000 and 5,000 feet altitude and were built in the forest where the smaller chipmunk is abundant, but below the range of Say's Chipmunk.

I think the tree squirrels (*S. fessor* and *S. hudsonius fremonti*), the former the large Grey Squirrel and the latter the Red Squirrel, destroy a great many nests and eggs in some localities. I hope the causes of bird scarcity in California will be ascertained and removed if possible. I think some are climatic.

L. BELDING.

Stockton, Cal.

Mr. William W. Price will conduct a party of boys and young men on a natural history and exploring trip to the Lower Colorado River from Yuma, Ariz., southward through Mexico to the Gulf of California. The party left Yuma Dec. 21 and are expected to return about Jan. 5. It is safe to assume that, with Mr. Price as their leader and guide, they will find the outing both profitable and immensely interesting.

We learn that W. Otto Emerson of Hayward, Cal., has been appointed a member of the A. O. U. Committee on Bird Protection for California. Mr. Emerson's active work in this line is well known, and the appointment is happily deserved.

Flathead Lake Findings

BY P. M. SILLOWAY, LEWISTON, MONT.

[Read before the Northern Division of the Cooper Orn. Club, Jan. 12, 1901]

HOW frequently it happens that after we have given up active quest for a certain desideratum, we chance upon it some fine day with startling abruptness! Thus it occurred that the indefinable element we ornithologists call Luck predominated largely in the taking of my first (and only) set of *Dendroica auduboni* (Townsend), vulgarly known among A. O. U. associates as Audubon's Warbler. Upon my arrival at our camp at the northeastern corner of Flathead Lake, on June 14, the tops of the lofty pines and tamaracks were animate with the movements of this handsome warbler; and in watching the flitting visitants to a certain tree, I located a nest near the extremity of a horizontal branch, to which the parents were making trips so regularly that nothing but young birds in the nest could explain the cause of their activity. With a heavy heart I concluded that I had arrived too late to see my hopes end in fruition by taking several sets of eggs of this warbler, and that for this season at least I must be content with reading in THE CONDOR how Mr. Howard had taken them in Arizona, or how Messrs. Barlow and Carriger had found them in the Sierras.

Having left my irons at home, and having promised my wife that I should not make any venturesome climbs during my collecting trip, I paid little attention to the tops of the large pines in my daily outings, though now and then I cast covetous glances upward when any undue activity of the flitting birds or any unnatural accretion in the tufts of extended foliage arrested my sweeping examination of the surroundings. Thus I explored the region near our camp day after day, always led onward (and frequently upward) by a hope that some belated warbler might have a home in the top of one of the young

firs, into which I could peep with heart beating joyfully in anticipation of a set of eggs snugly ensconced in a downy cot. Didn't Davie say that the nests of this species are situated at various heights, ranging all the way from three to thirty feet? Surely all the Flathead warblers were not nesting in the tops of the tall pines! And surely all the Flathead warblers had not concluded their nidification thus early in the season!

There is a most gracious promise, of most wonderful application, and I fancy how often the eager collector, as he further pursues his yet bootless quest, yields to the dreary monotone of his inward mentor, "seek and ye shall find", until all previous disappointments are effaced in the gratifying moment that he looks into the nest and reads in letters of rosy tinge, *fresh*. You see that at last I get to the point.

With varying fortune the days came and went, until the 27th of June dawned. I had ceased my yearning after the seemingly unattainable, and had got down to the quest of a pair of *Porzana carolina* (Linn.), "O, what a fall was there, my countrymen!" Hearing the chick-like chirping of a pair of passing *Coccothraustes vespertinus montanus* (Ridgw.)—Fellows will understand this to mean the Western Evening Grosbeak—and seeing them hurrying rapidly overhead as if a nest might be the objective point, I dropped further operations against the Soras, and struck a line through the dense growth of slender willows fringing the lake, in hopes of chancing upon a nest of *Coccothraustes*. From sheer force of habit I scanned the willow canopy, and had scarcely entered the growth, when a suspicious-looking grayish mass in a fork of one of the stems caught my eye. Giving the trunk a half-hearted

stroke with my gun-barrel, I was surprised to see a small bird flit downward and away among the willows, though I had presence of mind to catch her in the farther limit of the "twilight noon" of the swamp woods. Stooping to examine my prize, I realized that *Dendroica auduboni* stock was soaring skyward, and depositing the mortal remains of Mrs. auduboni in my collecting basket, I made haste to ascend a neighboring stem, as I feared the one holding the prize might bend under my weight

length I stood on terra firma below with my treasures safe and sound. In descending I measured the stem with a two-foot rule, and found the distance from the ground to be eighteen feet. The fork containing the nest was in a main stem, upright, a number of feet below the leaf-bearing part of the tree, so that the nest was exposed quite fairly to view.

The nest is figured in the accompanying illustration. It stands two and one-fourth inches in height, and averages



Photo by Prof. M. J. Elrod.

Nest and Eggs of Audubon's Warbler

and spill the contents of the nest before I reached it.

When about half way up to the nest, I had to strap the stem I was climbing to the one containing the nest, and thus with little difficulty I was enabled to reach the prize and gaze into its recesses. Five eggs! My trembling hand could barely transfer them one by one to the cotton of the collecting can, but at

three and one-fourth inches in diameter. The rim of the cavity averages two inches in diameter, and is somewhat smaller than the diameter of the space below. The depth of the cavity is a trifle more than an inch and one-half. The exterior of the nest is made of coarse materials, such as weed-stems, grasses, and bits of vegetable down. It has a nice lining of horsehair on soft



Photo by Prof. M. J. Elrod.

Nest of Empidonax wrightii.

feathers, the latter being worked into the walls so that their soft extremities project into the cavity and curl warmly along the upper portions of the wall. The eggs have a ground of grayish white color, marked chiefly at the larger end with specks and irregular dots of blackish and dark reddish brown, one or two having a suggestion of the wreath-like formation in the markings.

It is worth while to mention that during the next three days I searched the entire swamp woods extending between the mouth of Swan River and Flathead River, a space of nearly three miles, over which the willow growth averaged a width of three hundred yards, and it seemed to me that

every separate tree was closely scanned, but no other evidence of *Dendroica auduboni* was found in that locality; hence I averred that Luck was a predominating factor in the finding thus lengthily recorded.

Along the landward margin of the willow swamp mentioned in the foregoing description, there was a thick growth of bushes and small evergreen trees, consequent upon the lumberman's advent into the neighborhood. Between the swamp and the bushes, I managed to while away many a June day, and to pick up some finds which, though not important to the advanced collectors, were very interesting to one who was spending his first summer in Montana. How I pity those advanced collectors, who long ago lost all pleasure in the common friends of the woodland, and now find their only solace in a's, b's, c's,

etc., or the oological findings of the far-off islands of the sea. But to resume:

It was along the bushy margin of the swamp-woods that I first had the pleasure of meeting *Empidonax wrightii* Baird, which advanced collectors will readily recognize as the cognomen of Wright's Flycatcher. I was prying around the clumps of maple sprouts alternating with the fir thickets, when a little flycatcher flitted from a nest in an upright crotch in the periphery of the clump. The nest was only five feet from the ground, and by standing on a prostrate log I could easily peep into the cozy structure. At a glance I knew that the four creamy white eggs were strange to me, and I began to look again for the

owner, but she had wisely disappeared. We collectors know how to wait, as well as to labor; and so I ensconced myself in a convenient place and waited. Presently the owner appeared, uttering a somewhat harsh but subdued "quit," flipped her tail nervously to inform me that she was a flycatcher, and dodged behind an adjacent clump. However, at length I captured her (my Audubonian spirit prevents my saying that I shot her); nest and eggs were soon packed in my basket, and another finding recorded in my note-book.

This nest stands three inches in height, the exterior diameters averaging two and three-fourths inches. The rim of the cavity averages one and thirteen-sixteenths in diameter, the depth being one and three-fourths inches. The structure is made of gray vegetable fibers, such as soft strippings from weed-stems, with which are interwoven cottony vegetable materials and bits of gossamer. The lining is delicate grassy fibers, used sparingly, and small, downy feathers which project from the well. The illustration shows the position of the nest better than we can describe it.

It may not be amiss to say here that while my business in the Flathead region in July and August was to assist in biological work for the Montana State University, my purpose there in June was to pick up a few sets of eggs for my own little collection. You will therefore understand that when I became awake to what a treasure a common maple clump might contain, few of them escaped my earnest glance. The first nest of *E. wrightii* was taken on June 15; it was not until the 18th that I chanced upon my second nest. The locality was a high ridge east of the lake near our camp. I had wandered aimlessly onward and upward, allured by the clumps of maple that dotted the hillsides and intermediate valley. Clump after clump was examined; but at length I spied a nest that seemed promising. It was ten feet from the ground, in an upright crotch

near the top of the clump. To reach it safely I had to strap together a bundle of the light sprouts. This nest contained five eggs, somewhat advanced in incubation. In structure and appearance, it is a counterpart of the one first described.

The collector can give little excuse for taking a series of eggs and nests of *Empidonax wrightii*, upon the ground of variation, as the eggs are practically all alike except deviations in size, and the nests look much alike exteriorly. I just wanted more eggs, I suppose, (you understand the feeling, Mr. Editor), so I kept scanning the maple clumps, and on June 20 I found my third nest. It was on the same ridge, where I had taken the second one. This third nest was only four feet from the ground, situated as usual in an upright crotch of maple sprout. It stands two and one-half inches high, the interior dimensions being the same as those given for the first nest. There were three fresh eggs in this nest.

What, another nest? Yes, back in the margin of the swamp-woods. Four days of further search netted nothing in the way of flycatcher's eggs, though I managed to get fair returns for the time in other ways; but on June 25 I chanced upon my last nest of *Empidonax wrightii*, which contained four eggs in which incubation had well begun. It was eight feet from the ground, in a crotch in an oblique stem of a maple sprout. The nest stands three inches high, the cavity averaging two and one-eighth inches in diameter at the rim. This nest is somewhat different from the others in its large and shallow cavity, and in the amount of felted material used in the inner wall. All the nests of this flycatcher have a considerable amount of loose material at the bottom, as an exterior foundation.



Theodore J. Hoover is spending the Christmas vacation with Dr. J. P. Smith among fossil beds near Independence, Cal. From force of habit, Mr. Hoover took a gun with him!

New Alaskan Birds *

RICHARD C. MCGREGOR.

+ *Leucosticte kadiaka* sp. nov.

Sp. Char.—Similar to *Leucosticte griseonucha* but with smaller bill and smaller, weaker feet and claws.

Type—♂ ad., No. 3048. McGregor Coll., Karluk, Kadiak Island, Alaska; March 14, 1897; collected by Cloudsley Rutter.

Habitat—Kadiak Island, Alaska.

Specimens at hand are in such worn plumage that wing and tail measurements are worthless. In spring birds from Karluk the bill is dark horn color, while in November examples it is yellow with a dark tip. Measurements in hundredths of an inch are here given for three males from Amaknak and four males from Kadiak.

	Exp. Culmen	Bill from nostril	Middle toe with claw
<i>L. griseonucha.</i>	.54	.42	.97
<i>kadiaka.</i>	.48	.38	.88

+ *Melospiza sanaka* sp. nov.

Sp. Char.—Similar to *Melospiza cinerea* but bill longer and more slender, middle toe with claw shorter.

Type—No. 3361. McGregor Coll., Sanak Island, Alaska; June 13, 1894; collected by C. Littlejohn. Exposed culmen, .61; bill from nostril, .48; middle toe with claw, 1.02.

Habitat.—Sanak and Popoff Islands, Alaska.

The Sanak birds at hand are all in worn spring plumage so that they cannot be compared with my fall birds from Dutch Harbor which are in fresh plumage. Mr. Chase Littlejohn kindly let me use his series of skins from Sanak.

The following table of measurements shows the amount and character of difference in size of the two forms.

MEASUREMENTS OF *Melospiza cinerea* AND *M. sanaka*

	Sanak		Amaknak	
Five examples of each.	Average	Extremes	Average	Extremes
Exp. culmen ♂	.60	.58-.63	.57	.54-.58
Exp. culmen ♀	.59	.57-.63	.56	.54-.60
Bill from nos. ♂	.48	.47-.49	.44	.44-.45
Bill from nos. ♀	.48	.46-.51	.45	.43-.47
Mid. toe with claw ♂	1.03	1.01-1.06	1.07	1.06-1.08

* An author's edition of 100 copies was distributed Nov. 25, 1900.

Nesting Habits of the California Shrike

†*Lanius ludovicianus gambeli* Ridgw.

BY WM. L. ATKINSON

THE California Shrike is an abundant resident in Santa Clara, Co., Cal. where it may be seen at almost any time by an observing person, perched upon a telegraph pole or the top of some tall tree where it may have a good view of the surrounding country. A grain field containing several large white-oak or live-oak trees is a favorite locality of this bird, and once a pair has selected a location of this kind, nothing short of death will cause them to leave it. A cypress or osage orange hedge is a favored spot for a nest as is also a scrub willow in a grain field or at the roadside.

Nest building is commenced as soon as the weather moderates in the spring—some years earlier than others. My record for my first set of shrikes' eggs for the past six years is as follows:

1895, Feb. 26, six fresh eggs.

1896, Mar. 19, six fresh eggs.

1897, Apl. 1, seven fresh eggs.

1898, Mar. 9, six fresh eggs.

1899, Apl. 10, six fresh eggs.

1900, Mar. 5, six fresh eggs.

The latest date at which I have taken eggs is June 17. I believe that when unmolested the shrike raises at least three broods in a season. If the nest is robbed the birds will immediately start another one, near to and sometimes right upon the site of the old nest and in a very short time it will contain a set of eggs.

In 1894 I took one set of seven eggs, two of six each, one of five and a small boy got another of four eggs,—all from a pair of shrikes which had selected an eighty-acre field near my residence for their home. This field contained four white oak trees and one live-oak, and when one nest was collected from them they would immediately repair to the next tree and build again. In this way twenty-eight eggs were taken from

them, but undaunted they began again and in admiration for their perseverance I left them to build their *sixth* nest and hatch their eggs in peace. The next year they were on hand as usual and have ever since been yielding two or three sets yearly to swell the writer's collection.

The following is a fair record for one pair of birds for four years,—

1895, Feb. 26. Six fresh eggs.

Mar. 27. Seven eggs. Incubation advanced.

Apl. 27. Six eggs. Incubation begun.

1896, Mar. 19. Six eggs. Fresh.

Apl. 3. Five eggs. Incubation begun.

Apl. 18. Six eggs. Fresh.

May 4. Five eggs. Incubation slight.

1897, Apl. 1. Seven fresh eggs.

1898, Mar. 16. Six fresh eggs.

A total of nine sets or fifty-four eggs.

I could have taken at least one or two more sets in both 1897 and 1898 had I desired to do so—and during the same length of time the "small boy" got several sets, so it can be easily seen that the shrike is in no danger of extermination. I know that these eggs were all laid by the same pair of birds because they nested within an eighth of a mile of my residence, so that I was in a position to watch them both in the winter and summer. The eggs of this bird all show a great resemblance, as I have before noted (CONDOR 1, 29), which helps to prove the theory of individuality of eggs and also that they were all deposited by the same bird.

This year, 1900, I had quite an interesting experience with the shrike. On the 5th of March I was out collecting some specimens for skins, and while driving along a country road I noticed a suspicious looking "bunch" ten feet up

in a small cypress tree at the roadside. Driving up to the fence I stood up in my buggy in time to see a shrike flit off her nest which contained five fresh eggs. As my destination was a small stream about a mile and a half farther down the road I left the nest until I should return. Imagine my surprise when I went to collect the set to find six eggs instead of five! The female had deposited an egg while I was gone.

Desiring some specimens of the shrike for skins, I shot the female as she flew from the nest. On the 22nd of March I again drove out to the stream mentioned above and as I passed the cypress tree I saw another nest upon the same spot. Climbing up to it I was rewarded with a nice set of six eggs. The male bird had secured another mate, they had built a nest and the female laid a set of six eggs in the short space of seventeen days! The female is a very close sitter, especially if the eggs are incubated, in some cases allowing herself to be touched before leaving the nest.

The nest is a bulky structure placed in some convenient fork of a cypress or willow or in a thick bunch of twigs near the end of a drooping oak limb, at heights varying from five to thirty feet from the ground. It is composed of an outer layer of coarse twigs, with a filling of rope, straw, string, grasses or almost any soft substance available and lined with feathers, cotton or wool, usually feathers.

The eggs range from five to seven in number, although I have taken one set of eight, and they are usually of a dull grayish ground color, although I have found some specimens showing a decidedly greenish cast. They are spotted with light brown, olive and sometimes purple, which is in most specimens heaviest at the larger end. Sixteen specimens from five different sets in the writer's collection average .96x.71. The extremes are 1.06x.71, .86x.69 and .99x.75.

I might here record a set of albino

shrike's eggs which were taken by a "small boy" near my home in 1894. Four of the seven eggs in the set were pure white, the other three being white, very sparsely spotted with a light shade of brown. I used every inducement to secure the set for my collection but they could be obtained for neither love nor money. This is the only case of albinism I have ever seen in a great many sets of shrikes' eggs examined, so I am led to believe it is quite a rare occurrence. I believe the period of incubation is fourteen days. The young are very interesting little creatures when they are just leaving the nest and it is said they make interesting pets if taken at this time and raised. Perhaps it would be well to relate an experiment along this line which I once witnessed, and which was a decided failure.

March 16th, 1900, while at work in an orchard I found two young birds just learning to fly, in a live oak tree and after an exciting chase, I succeeded in capturing them. Placing them in my lunch basket I started for home, the old birds meanwhile following me closely. Finally, the young birds became quiet in the basket and the old birds took their departure, after following me almost a mile. The same evening I took the young birds to the residence of Mr. Barlow, thinking perhaps he would like to see them alive before I skinned them. Imagine my surprise to hear him say he thought he would raise them! As they were evidently hungry he brought out some oysters and proceeded to fill them up, whereupon they immediately turned up their toes and were in due time added to our collection.

The California Shrike is a bird of very unsavory reputation, and I think from all my observations that he no doubt deserves it. His favorite past-time seems to be in catching crickets, grasshoppers, lizards, small snakes and even small birds and impaling them upon a barbed wire fence or some sharp

thorn. April 1, 1899, I found two Arkansas Goldfinches (*Astragalinus psaltria*) impaled side by side upon a barbed-wire fence, the barb in both instances being passed through the neck from side to side just at the base of the skull. [See *Oologist*, XVI. No. 5, p. 79.] I do not think they ever return to eat anything after they have once left it, and I have often thought I could detect in their actions a fiendish delight as they watched some unfortunate lizard or grasshopper squirming upon a thorn.

The note most usually heard from the shrike is a harsh call-note, but I have sometimes heard in the spring of the year a pretty little warble, with various trills, which is thought by some people to be uttered for the purpose of attracting small birds within reach, so that they may be captured. I do not agree with this theory but think their song is a sort of a "love-song," for I have watched them often while singing and never saw one try to capture a small bird or any insect at that time.

Cooper Club's President for 1901.

With the steady growth and expansion of the Cooper Ornithological Club, the executive officer of 1901 finds his position fraught with greater power and with greater possibilities than ever before, and the membership may well congratulate itself upon securing for presiding officer of the Club-at-Large one of its most popular and efficient members, Mr. Joseph Grinnell, whose likeness THE CONDOR takes pleasure in presenting.

Mr. Grinnell occupies an unique position in assuming the presidency of the Cooper Club. The Club is represented by two Divisions,—the Northern and Southern,—which separate bodies were created merely to permit of each holding meetings in its respective location. The executive power of the Club-at-Large is vested in the Northern

Division and from its membership has heretofore been chosen the president, until this year. Mr. Grinnell is temporarily a member of the Northern Division and during his year's residence at Palo Alto his ornithological work has been keenly recognized by his co-workers,



which fact, coupled with his popularity, made it evident at the time of the annual nominations that he was the unanimous choice for the presidency of the Club.

Mr. Grinnell's ornithological work in Southern California is too well-known to require repetition, and his recent publication, "Birds of the Kotzebue Sound Region, Alaska", is an example of his careful and extended field-work. His interest in the Club and its advancement has been unfaltering, and through his ability and energy we shall expect to see still better work accomplished. Mr. Emerson has relinquished the office of president after three consecutive terms of faithful service, declining to be a nominee for 1901, and the Club must feel a satisfaction in bestowing the office into the present efficient hands.

An interesting article on the nesting habits of the Buff-breasted Flycatcher, by Richard D. Lusk, for which the illustration had been prepared is laid over until our next issue, owing to the late arrival of the text.

Two Races of the Red-breasted Sapsucker

BY JOSEPH GRINNELL

† *Sphyrapicus varius ruber* (Gmelin) Ridgway.*

Type—♂ ad., No. 3964, Coll. F. S. Daggett; Puyallup, Washington; November 22, 1895; Collected by Geo. G. Cantwell.

Description—Head, neck and breast, deep carmine, posteriorly beneath fading out, but on nape, abruptly defined. Concealed pectoral black patch, indicated by a deepening of the red of that area into maroon. Loral stripe including nasal tufts, white; eye narrowly encircled with black, from which a narrow black line extends forward along the upper margin of the white loral stripe; a small area of black around base of lower mandible. Median posterior lower surface, dingy primrose yellow; sides with black sagittate markings on a light olive ground; flanks irregularly barred with blackish on a yellowish white ground. Crissum whitish, with hastate dusky markings toward bases of feathers. Dorsal surface, wings and tail steely black, marked as follows: Longitudinally down middle of back from nape to rump, the feathers of this tract being basally black, then white to a variable extent, then a hastate black interval, and finally tipped with lemon yellow; the whole effect is of a double yellowish stripe down middle of back. Upper tail coverts medially white tinged with primrose yellow. Narrow soiled whitish edgings near tips of outer two tail feathers on each side. Inner webs of central pair of tail feathers with five abruptly defined rectangular white spots, these not meeting the shaft. Median and greater wing coverts broadly tipped with white, forming a conspicuous white stripe on closed wing. Wing quills with numerous small white spots on their inner and outer edges and narrowly white tipped.

Measurements of Type—Wing, 5.04; tail, 3.75; tarsus, .80; culmen, .99.

Habitat—Northwest coast region of North America, south in California through the Santa Cruz Mountains.

† *Sphyrapicus varius daggetti* new subspecies.

Type—♂ ad., No. 1482 Coll. F. S. Daggett; Pasadena, California; January 25, 1893; Collected by F. S. Daggett.

Description—Head, neck and breast, crimson, inclining to burnt carmine in region of concealed pectoral black patch. Loral stripe, including nasal tufts, white; narrow patch from in front of, to below eye, black, this forming part of the upper border of the loral stripe. Small areas of black feathers at bases of rami of lower mandible. Median posterior lower surface, pale primrose yellow. Sides and flanks, dusky whitish, with numerous sagittate blackish markings. Feathers of crissum white, with central black patches. Dorsal surface, wings and tail, steely black, marked as follows: Feathers composing longitudinal double stripe down middle of back, extensively white; rump and upper tail coverts, principally white. Inner webs of central pair of tail feathers, white, enclosing three black spots. Median and greater wing coverts broadly tipped with white, forming a conspicuous white stripe on closed wing. Wing quills with numerous white spots on their inner and outer edges, and more extensively white-tipped.

Measurements of Type—Wing, 4.83; tail, 3.55; tarsus, .80; culmen, .96.

Habitat—Southern California and the west slope of the Sierra Nevada north at least to Amador County.

I have examined a number of skins of the *nuchalis* type, and others approaching *ruber* in almost every degree, and I am certain that there is a continuous intergradation geographically between the eastern *S. varius* and *ruber* of the Pacific Coast. The intermediates do not appear to be the result of "hybridization" and the case does not seem to me at all a parallel to that of *Colaptes auratus* and *C. cafer*. Therefore I see no reason why the Red-breasted Sapsucker is of more than subspecific rank.

The Red-breasted Sapsucker in its Pacific Coast range is represented by two races (= sub-races!) as above indicated. *Sphyrapicus varius ruber* is characterized by larger size, deeper reds and an invasion of yellow, and a minimum extent of white markings. *Sphyrapicus varius daggetti* is smaller, paler and with a maximum extent of white markings. *Dryobates villosus harrisi* and *D. v. hyloscopus* of corresponding habitats show a similar difference in respect to size and extent of white markings.

I take pleasure in naming this new woodpecker for my respected friend, Mr. F. S. Daggett.

**Picus ruber* GMELIN, Systema Naturae, Tom I, 1788: p. 429.

Sphyrapicus varius var. *ruber* RIDGWAY, American Journal of Sciences and Arts, 3rd Series, Volume V, 1873: p. 40.

Dichromatism in the Genus *Carpodacus*

RICHARD C. MCGREGOR.

[Read before the Northern Division of the Cooper Orn. Club.]

OCCASIONAL finches, in which yellow is present or even predominant over the red, must come to the notice of every field ornithologist of the west; in fact we may look for some yellow feathers in about one-half the males of this group. *Loxia*, *Pinicola* and probably other genera have a yellow phase of regular occurrence in the immature plumage. It is this dichromatism which led me to make a few remarks before the Club—not with the intention of reporting anything new but with the hope that some members might take an interest in what has interested me.

The following notes were made on specimens of *Carpodaci* in my collection and treat of the occurrence of yellow among the North American species. I am unfortunate in having no representatives of Mexican forms but these would doubtless show the same variations in plumage color.

Yellow feathers are rare in *Carpodacus purpureus californicus* and I have never seen them in *C. cassini*. Of the former race Mr. T. E. Slevin has two males in which a few yellow feathers occur on the breast. They were taken at Fairfax, California, in December. In the subgenus *Burrica*, including as it does the so-called house finches, the yellow phase is common and these plumages will now be described for each race examined.

Among the finches from the San Benito Islands (*C. mcgregori*), I have never seen two alike. The colors range from bright crimson through orange into lemon yellow with all manner of variations resulting from combinations of these colors and their shades or tints. It is impossible to take any example and say it is the typical coloration.

The finch of Guadalupe Island (*C. amplus*) shows more stability in its coloration but even here we often find

birds varying from the normal. Of seventeen males before me, nine, or over one-half, are more or less yellow. In two of these the rump, head, and breast are clear lemon yellow, in a third the feathers are about equally red and yellow, of a pale washed-out look. The remaining six have a few yellow feathers irregularly mixed with the crimson. The proportion of yellow birds which really occurs in probably less than the above figures would indicate as this series was selected, somewhat, with a view to getting the abnormal examples.

Among mainland birds (*C. m. obscurus*), great deviation from the crimson type is rarer, though even here it is surprising how many shades of color occur. In a series of over fifty males before me including skins from Colorado, nearly the whole length of California, and four from northern Lower California there are thirty-three in which more or less yellow occurs. However, four only are strikingly different from the normal, three being yellow with no red and one almost orange with very few yellow feathers. Twenty-nine possess from one or two to a dozen lemon colored feathers mixed among the red. Among the red examples, too, there is great variation. Many are a deep rose pink (young of the year?), others are crimson or near vermilion. Birds taken just before or during breeding season have an indescribable lustre which is only ascribable to intensification or addition of pigment.

Of six examples from Coronado and San Clemente Islands (*C. clementis*), one from each island has a few yellow feathers; another from Coronado is almost brick red.

Even in *C. ruberrimus* from San Jose del Cabo, we find cases of reversion, for although this form is 'very red' as its name indicates, there are occasional specimens with yellow feathers. I have

managed to get six of these. Two are in immature plumage, one shows an inclination to orange, and three have yellow in patches.

Pains have been taken to make this list in some detail in order to show how frequent is the tendency to yellow; so frequent is it that we are hardly justified in calling it an abnormal condition. The hypothesis that yellow is a more primitive color than red finds additional evidence in another genus, *Cyanospiza*. A spring male of *C. ciris* taken in Georgia has one yellow feather in its breast and five in its throat. Another male of this species shows yellow on the flank.¹

That these facts point to an ancestral bird of yellow plumage seems most reasonable to answer a question as to why so many birds are off color.

Mr. Charles A. Keeler has suggested that yellow is the more primitive color and red an intensification of the same pigment, although he gives no experimental data to support his opinion. So high an authority as Dr. R. W. Shufeldt wrote me, October 10, 1899, in regard to this subject: "I am inclined to agree with Mr. Keeler that *yellow* birds preceded *red* ones in the history of the group *in time*, and thus viewed, red may be but an intensification of the former color." Mr. J. Armory Jefferies says: "Red feathers as those of the Flamingo, Cardinal Bird, and the like, are so colored by a red pigment similar to the yellow one."²

Keeler³ has called attention also to the fact that the House Finch when kept in captivity changes from red to yellow, and that ⁴"many birds appear to become more brilliant in color as the breeding season approaches without either a moult or the wearing away of the tips of the feathers." This last point is indicated by the series of

finches in my collection. He says:⁵ "It is difficult to say whether the change in color of the caged house finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus frontalis*) from red to yellow is due principally to a change in food, or to the confinement and general deterioration of the system from captivity. Food nevertheless, plays some part in this, as well as in many changes in the color of birds in the wild state, which, with the present lack of experimental data, are far too complex even to be surmised."⁶

I have quoted at length from Keeler in order to emphasize the richness of material ready to our hand. Here is an excellent chance for interesting and valuable experimentation. A study of the color change in our commonest bird would give big returns for the time invested. For such work, however, one should be permanently located where continuous out-of-door work might be done for a year or more.

One more extract from Keeler's work may not be out of place. "The most significant interrelation of colors, however, and one which I believe to be of wide application in the explanation of bird colors, is that between yellow and red. Whether these two colors are produced by the same or a different pigment I am unable to say; but, however this may be, there is a high degree of probability that the red is simply an intensification of the yellow. There is much to show that yellow is a more primitive stage than red, and that the latter has always or nearly always been developed from the former."⁷

It is to be hoped that someone who has time and facilities will feel enough interest in this matter to make at least a study of the moult and of the effect of food supply, varied as to quantity and and quality.

1. NOTE—Since writing the above I have examined a beautiful series of Hawaiian Island species, *Vestiaria coccinea*, in the collection of Mr. H. W. Henshaw of Hilo. In the adult plumage this bird is entirely red. The young, however, are yellow and Mr. Henshaw's lot shows the gradual change from yellow to red.

2. Bull. Nat. Ornith. Club, VII. P. 131.

3. Evolution of Colors of N. A. Land Bds. P 156.

4. I. c. p. 136.

5. I. c. p. 229.

6. See on this subject, Birtwell, *Auk* XVI. p. 313.

7. I. c. p. 154.

Echoes from the Field.

Stragglers in Southern California. The prediction of a cold winter is being verified in Southern California by an unusually large migration of water birds this fall, among them being many stragglers not often seen, and a few not heretofore recorded. Among the latter I have had brought to me for identification, a specimen of Ross's Snow Goose, (*Chen rossii*), shot at the Bolsa Chica Club grounds near Newport, Cal., by Dr. A. Fenyes, Nov. 10, 1900. It was flying in company with an American White-fronted Goose which was also secured, no other geese being in the vicinity. On Nov. 28 Mr. E. R. Hull brought me a pair of Old-squaws (*Harelda hyemalis*) shot at the same place. They were flying together over a blind when one was dropped, the other circling back to meet the same fate. The Ross's Snow Goose and the Old-squaw are both additions to Mr. Grinnell's 'List of Birds of the Pacific Slope of Los Angeles Co., Cal.', which also includes the western part of Orange Co. A flock of about 125 American White Pelicans flew over the city Nov. 25, one being secured at long-range by a high-power rifle. Of recent years only flocks of a dozen or so have been noted. All of the birds secured and noted above have found their way into my collection.

FRANK S. DAGGETT, Pasadena, Cal. Nov. 28, 1900.

The Alaskan Yellow Warbler in California. Three specimens of *Dendroica aestiva rubiginosa* are recorded by Oberholser (*Auk* XIV, Jan. 1897, p. 78) as taken by Mearns at Mountain Spring, San Diego County, May 11, 1894. Mr. W. O. Emerson has recently sent me three skins, undoubtedly referable to *rubiginosa*, taken by him at Haywards, October 4 and 7, 1898, and Sept. 14, 1900. These are readily distinguishable from fall skins of *Dendroica aestiva morcomi*, the usual Yellow Warbler of California, by larger size, darker dorsal surface, and a well-marked buffy tinge on the under parts. The Alaskan Yellow Warbler may therefore be looked for during the spring and fall migrations at about the above dates.

JOSEPH GRINNELL, Palo Alto, Cal.

Further Tape Worm Observations. It seems peculiar that more birds have not been discovered to be "free boarding-houses" for tape-worms. Mr. Belding's article in the July-August (1900) CONDOR surprised me, inasmuch as I had never considered tape-worms of unusual rarity in birds, having found them in quite a number of species, as follows:—*Lophortyx californicus*.—About three years ago while hunting in Monterey Co., I examined a great many quail, and at least one-third of them had tape worms from 2½ to 4 inches long. The birds were all full-grown and the parasite existed in the intestines. *Buteo borealis calurus*.—In October, 1897 I examined a Redtail which had a tape-worm in the intestines. It was about eight or ten inches long. *Zenaidura macroura*.—In July, 1900 I killed a female Mourning Dove which had a very long tape-worm in the intestines. She was extremely emaciated and had an egg in the oviduct almost ready for extrusion. The worm was wound around and around and the intestines plainly showed the hermaphrodite as it squirmed about in them. *Erismatura rubida*.—While at Morro I removed the intestines of several "wiretails" which contained tape-worms. The worms were about two feet long and the birds were nearly all very thin. *Spatula clypeata* and *Difila acuta*.—Killed one Shoveller and one "sprig", each showing a tape-worm. Both birds were much emaciated. *Melanerpes f. bairdi*.—In 1897 and 1898 I killed several of these woodpeckers with tape-worms in their intestines. Will collectors kindly attempt to add to this list? Tape-worms may be much more common in birds than we suspect, and careful dissection may result in discoveries we do not expect.

CHAS. S. THOMPSON, Paso Robles, Cal.

Two Interesting Stragglers for Marin Co. Cal. *Coccothraustes v. montanus*. While driving through our county-road gate about ten o'clock on the morning of Nov. 20, 1900, my attention was attracted by a small flock of strange birds in the top of an ash tree opposite. They were feeding upon the buds and were not in plain view, yet the white bands on the wings at once called to mind the Western Evening Grosbeak. It seemed impossible that this identification could be correct, as this bird is a very rare visitant to this county, two or three only having been reported as seen in years past, one specimen sent me from Olema and now in our collection, and one seen by me on July 15, 1900 while I was deer-hunting. Leaving my companion to watch the flock I drove back to the house about half a mile distant, after a gun, and upon returning found the flock still in the immediate neighborhood, and consisting of ten or twelve birds. Three were secured, one of which was a male, apparently upon dissection a bird of the year; one an adult female and the third a female of the year. This last was exceedingly fat, while the first two were thin.

Nucifraga columbiana. It is a pleasure to be able to mention the capture of a bird never before recorded from this county, and as far as I know, not suspected of ever having been even a straggling visitor. On the 20th of November, 1900, a box was sent me from Point Reyes station in this county, containing besides one specimen each of *Porzana jamaicensis* and *Porzana noveboracensis*, an immature female Clarke's Nutcracker to which was attached a note from the donor asking what manner of bird this might be. I immediately sent a note of thanks for the specimens and enclosed a list of questions concerning the capture, for the donor to answer. His reply contained the statements that the Clarke's Nutcracker was shot in a pine tree on the top of a ridge on Point Reyes proper, on the south-west side of Tomales Bay, Marin Co., Cal. by himself on Nov. 19; that this was the only one seen at the time, but that he had seen one about a month before in the same place, which he thought was the same individual as the one shot, and that one was seen about a mile from the spot the day before the capture by a member of the Country Club. This he also believes to be the same individual, but promises to keep a sharp lookout in order to verify his supposition. This party is a hunter of great experience and naturally of an observing nature, yet he states that during all the years in which he has hunted, and at times been game-keeper in this county, he has never before seen a bird of this species except as above mentioned. This specimen was much emaciated, as if it had been a difficult matter for it to find proper food in this region, though the locality where it was shot is partially covered with a species of nut pine which would seem to be adapted to the bird's needs, and yet which grows in no other part of the county.

JOSEPH MAILLARD, San Geronimo, Marin Co., Cal.

Two Albinos from San Mateo Co., Cal. I have recently added two more albinos to my collection; one, a "white quail" (*Lophortyx californicus vallicolus*), a male, and the exact counterpart of the bird described by Mr. McGregor in a recent number of THE CONDOR. The other is a "white blackbird" (*Agelaius gubernator californicus*) with the exception of about half a dozen feathers on the breast and the same number between the shoulders on the back. The body is pure white, the top of the head is normal, the wings each contain about six or eight white feathers; the feathers on one side of the tail were shot away, those remaining being black. The bird has red shoulders but they are much paler than normal, and the color seems to have "run" across the breast and throat, giving these parts a rosy hue. This is the most interesting albino I have ever seen, it having been presented to me by Mr. Chas. Nichols of Pescadero, at which place it was shot. The quail was taken

here, within about three miles of the place at which the one recorded by Mr. McGregor was captured. Both albinos are in my collection.

CHASE LITTLEJOHN, Redwood City, Cal.

Notes from Los Angeles Co., Cal. *Uria troile californica*. On Nov. 3, 1900 in a box of birds in the flesh, sent me by Mr. Lee Chambers from Santa Monica, I found a California Murre ♀. The bird had been found dying on the beach and was in a greatly emaciated condition. I believe that this is an addition to our county list as I can find no record of its occurrence here.

Coccothraustes v. montanus. On Oct. 21, 1900 I saw an Evening Grosbeak in the Arroyo Seco Canyon, but failed to secure it. On Dec. 7 on Mt. Wilson I heard the loud call note of one, but did not even see the bird. On Dec. 13 I heard the same note in the wash issuing from the Arroyo Seco Canyon, and was fortunate enough to secure the bird, an adult female.

+ *Junco hyemalis*. I shot a male Slate-colored Junco on Mt. Wilson, Dec. 6, 1900. Another, also a male, was seen the day before; both were observed in flocks of *J. h. thurberi*.

Helminthophila celata. Three warblers that I have shot at Los Angeles (♂ Sept. 17, 1900. ♀ Oct. 30, 1899; ♀ Oct. 8, 1896) have been identified by Mr. Ridgway as belonging to this species. I have seen specimens of this bird every fall in the vicinity of Los Angeles, usually in company with *H. c. lutescens*, from which its grayish head renders it readily distinguishable.

+ *Ammodramus sandwichensis bryanti*. An *Ammodramus* shot by me at San Pedro Dec. 10, 1899, has been identified as Bryant's Marsh Sparrow by Mr. Ridgway. I have one or two others taken about the same time, apparently similar, so it may be found to be of regular occurrence here in the winter, though not recorded before.

H. S. SWARTH, Los Angeles, Cal.

Notes from San Luis Obispo Co., Cal. While at Morro on the San Luis Obispo coast I discovered three sets of Snowy Plover's (*Egialitis nivosa*) eggs on August 1, two sets being of three and one of two eggs. All were heavily incubated at this date and would have hatched in a day or two. The eggs were laid on the sand above high-water mark in slight hollows.

+ During April, 1900, I had the good fortune to record Cabanis' Woodpecker (*Dryobates v. hyloscopus*) for this county by taking two sets of eggs, $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$. One of the nests which I found was peculiar in that it had two entrances, one about five inches below the other and to one side, but each entrance seemed equally used. In 1899 I obtained a set of *D. nuttalli* from the same tree, a dead cottonwood. This addition to the list now gives the upper Salinas valley six breeding species of *Picidae*.

While at Morro, Nov. 25, 1900 I saw two Bald Eagles. One flew away but the other circled about and finally pounced upon a White-winged Scoter which it carried up the beach and started to devour. At our approach it dropped the bird, which waddled toward the water and swam away apparently unharmed. On Nov. 24 I captured three Scoters alive. They were far up on the beach and apparently were unable to fly from a "ground start". All captured were birds of the year and fully feathered.

CHAS. S. THOMPSON, Paso Robles, Cal.

Notes on the Dwarf Hermit Thrush and Other Notes. On the 11th of December, 1900 I witnessed a rather amusing, yet interesting performance by watching a Dwarf Hermit Thrush (*Hylocichla aemula schkæ*) securing his dinner. Being confined to the house by illness, I was looking out of a window into our garden for something in the bird line, when I noticed a thrush on the ground under an English walnut

tree. The ground was covered with leaves and the bird would hop up to one of them, nervously jerking his tail and occasionally "flirting" his wings, and selecting a leaf he would suddenly grasp it in his beak and throw it quickly out of his way, and at once make a grab for the angle-worms underneath, sometimes almost falling over backward in his efforts to draw them out of the ground. I watched him for sometime and saw him throw some of the leaves at least fifteen inches. He was very successful, securing one or more worms from beneath every leaf he turned over, and I should like to know by what faculty he could determine beneath which leaves the worms were hidden?

On the 6th of October, 1900 I shot three specimens of the Willow Goldfinch from a flock of perhaps 100 birds. One of them, a young male, shows a rather odd coloration on the crown, where occurs a patch of pure white as large as a dime. Otherwise the plumage is normal.

August 25, 1900 I noticed a Roadrunner on one of the principal residence streets of Santa Clara. After "pacing" down the street a short distance it took a short cut through a fence into a flower garden where it was lost sight of. This was rather an unexpected visitor, but imagine my surprise one morning in November to see an American Coot calmly walking down the street in front of me. I followed closely for over 100 yards and although the bird did not seem to be injured, it acted as though thoroughly "lost". The nearest water where the birds are found is three miles away.

WM. L. ATKINSON, Santa Clara, Cal.

Western Evening Grosbeak at Hayward, Cal. The early morning of December 29, 1900, brought in a new record for this part of Alameda County (Haywards), if not for the county at large, no other records as yet having been made of the Western Evening Grosbeak, (*Coccothraustes v. montanus*).

The birds' loud, whistling notes first attracted my attention, as they flew into an almond tree, seeming to rest from a long flight. Some twenty birds were in the flock and only one was shot before they were off, calling as they flew. The one collected proved to be a female in the winter plumage, of grayish color, showing a few yellowish-green feathers in one side of the neck. The crop was full of willow buds, showing that they had lately fed, no doubt among the creek willows below the orchard.

This form of the Evening Grosbeak is found commonly every winter through the Santa Cruz Mountains of the coast range, across the bay west of Haywards. I found them common among the pines at Monterey, Cal., in the latter part of November, 1896, particularly in the early morning, or at day-break.

W. OTTO EMERSON, Haywards, Cal., Jan. 1, 1901.

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Anent an Innovation.

On another page will be found a 'snap-shot' of Dr. C. Hart Merriam. Believing that even the more staid members of our ornithological circle may enjoy seeing some of our prominent ornithologists in moments of relaxation, *Squib* has ventured to inaugurate this series. So many persons are on their good behavior at the photographer's, that we ordinarily see the 'exception' rather than the 'rule'. The original snap-shots being too valuable to trust with the engraver, this series will appear redrawn with slight modifications. And lest some poor man should take us too seriously we beg to assure the world that we "josh only our friends".

"SQUIB."

"Pied Pipers of Santa Barbara" by Martinetta Kinsell, in October *Land of Sunshine*, is a good example of an extreme type of popular ornithology. It is a well written article, but of a gelatinous consistency that affords little mental pabulum. The germ of truth is about as elusive as a cork inside of a bottle. Perhaps it is not a serious attempt; we sincerely hope not. W. K. F.

The *Western Ornithologist*, whose promising career confined itself to three issues, has we regret to say, sought a resting-place in the journalistic graveyard. Thus many creditable and deserving journals are proving steadily the futility of the 50-cent "bird magazine."

The leading feature of December *Bird-Lore* is a popular article on photographing White-tailed Ptarmigan (*Lagopus leucurus*) in their native haunts, illustrated by six superb photographs of the ptarmigan in summer and winter plumage by the author, Mr. E. R. Warren. The photographs are certainly among the most notable published in ornithological magazines during the year.

Record of Alaskan Birds

IN THE

COLLECTION OF THE LELAND STANFORD JUNIOR UNIVERSITY.

BY JOSEPH GRINNELL.

The Zoological Museum of the Leland Stanford Junior University contains several small collections of birds taken at various times in the western part of Alaska, and these I believe afford data of enough value to warrant the present paper. Dr. C. H. Gilbert of the Zoological Department of the University has kindly given me permission to work over the material, and has also aided me with pertinent suggestions.

The Alaskan bird skins in the Museum number nearly two hundred, and were taken in the following localities: Pribilof Islands (both St. George and St. Paul), Amagkak Island, Belkowsky Bay, Unga Island, Kadiak Island and Prince William Sound. I have thought it better to record the birds in a separate list for each locality. Unfortunately there are no field-notes accompanying the specimens, so that the annotations are chiefly of a technical nature.

I have made use of the collection of the California Academy of Sciences in comparing specimens, as well as my own series of Alaskan birds.

PRIBILOF ISLANDS.

Twenty-one species are represented in the collection from this group of islands. They were all taken by Snodgrass (R. E.) and Greeley, (A. W.) between July 25 and September 4, 1897. Two of these species (*Totanus melanoleucus* and *Saxicola oenanthe*) are new to the list of birds known from the Pribilofs. The exhaustive paper by William Palmer on "Avifauna of the Pribilof Islands,"* enumerates sixty-nine species of authentic occurrence. One other has since been recorded † (*Tringa acuminata*). The present additions probably come under the head of casual or irregular visitors, and bring the total list of birds known from this group of islands up to seventy-two species.

1. *Lunda cirrhata* Pall. Tufted Puffin.
St. George Island, ♂, July 26; St. Paul Island, ♂ ♀, September 1.
2. *Fratercula corniculata* (Naum.). Horned Puffin.
St. Paul Island, ♂ ♀, August 22, September 1 and 4.
3. *Cyclorhynchus psittaculus* (Pall.). Paroquet Auklet.
St. George Island, ♂ ♂ ♀, July 26.
4. *Simorhynchus cristatellus* (Pall.). Crested Auklet.
St. George Island, ♂ ♀ ♀, July 26.
5. *Simorhynchus pusillus* (Pall.). Least Auklet.
St. George Island, ♂ ♂ ♀, July 26; St. Paul Island, ♀, August 21.
6. *Uria lomvia arra* (Pall.). Pallas's Murre.
St. George Island, ♀, July 25.
7. *Rissa brevirostris* (Bruch.). Red-legged Kittiwake.
St. George Island, ♂ ♀, July 26.
8. *Larus glaucescens* Naum. Glaucous-winged Gull.
St. Paul Island, ♀ im., September 4.
9. *Phalacrocorax urile* (Gmel.). Red-faced Cormorant.
St. Paul Island, ♂ ♂, July 31; ♂, September 2.
10. *Harelda hyemalis* (Linn.). Old-squaw.
St. Paul Island, August 17, two downy young evidently not more than two days old. This seems to indicate an unusually late nesting date.
11. *Crymophilus fulicarius* (Linn.). Red Phalarope.
St. Paul Island, ♂, August 17; ♀, August 31.
12. *Phalaropus lobatus* (Linn.). Northern Phalarope.
St. Paul Island, ♀, August 31.
13. *Tringa ptilocnemis* Coues. Pribilof Sandpiper.
St. George and St. Paul Islands, eight specimens, August 17-25.

*The Fur-Seals and Fur-Seal Islands of the North Pacific. Part 3. Washington: 1899. p. 355.

†N. Am. Fauna, No. 19. Birds of the Yukon Region, etc. By Dr. L. P. Bishop, October, 1900, p. 66.

14. *Tringa acuminata* (Horsf.). Sharp-tailed Sandpiper.
St. Paul Lagoon, ♂ (No. 3539 Coll. L. S. J. U.), August 17. This specimen is apparently in first plumage. This is the second record for the Pribilofs.
15. *Totanus melanoleucus* (Gmel.). Greater Yellow-legs.
Kamenista Lake, St. Paul Island, ♂ ad. (No. 3543 Coll. L. S. J. U.), August 17. This is the first recorded instance for the Pribilofs, and, as far as I know, the first Alaskan record west of Sitka where several specimens were secured by Bischoff.*
16. *Heteractitis incanus* (Gmel.). Wandering Tattler.
St. George and St. Paul Islands, four specimens, August 22-31.
17. *Arenaria interpres* (Linn.). Turnstone.
St. Paul Island, ♀ im., August 17.
18. *Leucosticte tephrocotis griseonucha* (Brandt). Aleutian Leucosticte.
St. George Island, ♂ ♀ juv., July 25. Judging from the material at hand I see no reason for considering *griseonucha* a distinct species. (See under KADIAK ISLAND).
19. *Passerina nivalis townsendi* (Ridgw.). Pribilof Snowflake.
St. George Island, two juveniles, July 25; St. Paul Island, juv., August 29.
20. *Calcarius lapponicus alascensis* Ridgw. Alaskan Longspur.
St. George and St. Paul Islands, 9 specimens, July 25-August 29. No. 3482 (Coll. L. S. J. U.) is a juvenile about half fledged, taken on August 20, which is notably late for so young a bird.
- + 21. *Saxicola oenanthe* (Linn.). Wheatear.
An immature male (No. 3486, Coll. L. S. J. U.) taken on St. Paul Island August 29, forms the first record for the Pribilofs, and fills in another gap in the known range of this remarkably wide-spread species.

AMAGNAK ISLAND.

This small island at Dutch Harbor, Unalaska, was visited by Snodgrass (R. E.) and Greeley (A. W.) in September, 1897, and four species were taken as follows:

1. *Calcarius lapponicus alascensis* Ridgw. Alaskan Longspur.
Adult ♀, Sept. 15.
2. *Ammodramus sandwichensis* (Gmel.). Sandwich Sparrow.
Five specimens, September 15-17.
- + 3. *Melospiza melodia cinerea* (Gmel.). Aleutian Song Sparrow.
Three specimens, September 17. Robert Ridgway has recently described† two new Alaskan races of the Song Sparrow practically completing the chain of forms connecting *melodia* of eastern North America with *insignis* of Kadiak Island. Accordingly he reduces the latter to the rank of a subspecies. *Cinerea* is very slightly different from *insignis*, and moreover is known to inhabit the Aliaska Peninsula so that geographical continuity with Ridgway's *kenaiensis* is probable. Therefore according to the present trend of opinion in regard to similarly related forms, *cinerea*, too, should be considered a subspecies, as above.
4. *Anorthura alascensis* (Baird). Alaskan Wren.
♂ juv., September 17.

BELKOVSKY BAY.

This bay on the southern side of the Aliaska Peninsula was visited by Snodgrass (R. E.) and Greeley (A. W.) on July 22, 1897, and the following species were collected.

1. *Tringa minutilla* Vieill. Least Sandpiper.
♂ ♀ both in juvenile plumage, but fully fledged; probably migrants.
2. *Corvus corax principalis* Ridgw. Northern Raven.
♂ adult.
3. *Passerina nivalis* (Linn.). Snowflake.
♂ adult (No. 3481 L. S. J. U.); Measurements: wing 4.27, tail 2.80, culmen .44. In the size of the bill this specimen approaches *townsendi*. Several skins which I have examined from western Alaska present larger measurements, especially of the bill, than do eastern specimens. In other words, they show a decided inclination toward the extreme as represented by *townsendi*, and I see no reason why *townsendi* should rank as a species, as proposed by Palmer in "The Avifauna of the Pribilofs" (l. c.). Notice also the measurements of the Kadiak specimens given beyond.

*Dall (W. H.) and Bannister (H. M.). List of the Birds of Alaska, with Biographical Notes. Transactions of the Chicago Academy of Sciences. Vol. I, Part II. Chicago: 1867. p. 292.

†New Species, etc., of American Birds.—Fringillidae. Auk, Jan., XVI, 1899, p. 36. AND *ibid.*, XVII, 1900, p. 29.

4. *Ammodramus sandwichensis* (Gmel.). Sandwich Sparrow.

UNGA ISLAND.

But three specimens are from this island, taken by Snodgrass (R. E.) and Greeley (A. W.) in July, 1897.

1. *Lagopus lagopus* (Linn.). Willow Ptarmigan.

♀ ad., July 21.

2. *Zonotrichia coronata* (Pall.). Golden-crowned Sparrow.

♂ ad., July 22.

+ 3. *Passerella iliaca unalaschensis* (Gmel.). Unalaska Sparrow.

♀ ad., July 21.

KADIAC ISLAND.

Nineteen species are in the collection from this Island taken principally by Cloudsley Rutter during the winter of 1896-97. A few skins were obtained by A. W. Greeley in July, 1897. This collection is of special interest as affording a new subspecies.

1. *Fulmarus glacialis glupischa* Stejn. Pacific Fulmar.

Karluk, ♂ ad., (dark phase), July 20.

2. *Tringa cunesi* (Ridgw.). Aleutian Sandpiper.

♂, Nov. 15; ♀ April 3.

3. *Lagopus lagopus* (Linn.). Willow Ptarmigan.

Six specimens, Dec., Jan. and Feb.

4. *Lagopus rupestris* (Gmel.). Rock Ptarmigan.

Karluk, adult in nearly complete summer plumage. (No date).

5. *Haliaeetus leucocephalus alascanus* Towns. Northern Bald Eagle.

Karluk, two specimens.

6. *Pica pica hudsonica* (Sab.). American Magpie.

Karluk, six specimens, Oct.—Dec. "Very common; feeds on dead fish" (Note on label).

The bills of these birds are slightly larger than in specimens of the same species from Nevada; otherwise I see no difference.

7. *Corvus corax principalis* Ridgw. Northern Raven.

Two specimens, Dec. 12 and 27.

8. *Pinicola enucleator flammula* (Homeyer). Kadiak Pine Grosbeak.

♀, Jan. 22. Measurements—wing 4.28; tail 3.74, culmen .57.

+ 9. *Leucosticte tephrocotis kadiaka* (McGregor)* Kadiak Leucosticte.

Five leucostictes are in the collection from Kadiak Island. Four are in winter plumage, while one, No. 3942, Coll. L. S. J. U., taken at Kadiak, July 19, 1897, is a breeding bird, thus indicating that the species is resident on this Island. Specimens at hand indicate an almost complete gradation between *Leucosticte tephrocotis* of the Sierra Nevada and *griseinucha* of the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands. Such being the case, then the latter form is a subspecies of *tephrocotis* as long ago contended (*L. tephrocotis* var. *griseinucha* COUES, Key, 1872, p. 130.) I hope to further discuss the relationships of these forms as soon as some expected material arrives from the north.

10. *Acanthis linaria* (Linn.). Redpoll.

♀, Nov. 22; ♂ ♀, March 8.

11. *Passerina nivalis* (Linn.). Snowflake.

One specimen (No. 3767, Coll. L. S. J. U.), Feb. 28, Sex (?). Measurements—wing 4.50, tail 3.00, culmen .46. This bird is still closer in size to *townsendi* than the one from Belkovsky Bay.

+ 12. *Ammodramus sandwichensis xanthophrys* nobis. Kadiak Savanna Sparrow.

TYPE—♀ ad., No. 3476, Coll. L. S. J. U.; St. Paul, Kadiak Island, Alaska; July 18, 1897; Collected by Greeley (A. W.) and Snodgrass (R. E.).

DESCRIPTION—Lower parts white; sides washed palely with tawny; feathers of breast, sides and flanks with cuneate or linear shaft-streaks. Edge of wing, pale yellow. Superciliary stripe canary yellow. Submalar and rictal stripes sooty, edged with tawny. Malar patch and sides of neck suffused with pale buff. Median crown stripe, whitish; otherwise, whole upper parts broadly streaked with sooty, each feather being centrally black, then tawny, and finally edged with grayish. The hind-neck, palest; middle of the back, most heavily marked. The tawny color predominates over the gray, giving the whole bird a decidedly "rusty" appearance.

Three specimens of this race are in the collection from Kadiak. As shown in the following table of measurements the proportions and size of the bill are almost exactly between those of *A. sandwichensis* and *A. s. alaudinus*. The general tone of the upper parts is quite different from either, showing a predominance of tawny. In this brownness of coloration *xanthophrys* resembles *A. s. savanna*, but the superciliary stripe of the former is very bright yellow and the size of

**Leucosticte kadiaka* McGregor, Reprint (sic!) from The Condor, Vol. III, No. I. Author's edition; mailed Nov. 25, 1900.

the bird is larger. No. 3638, taken at Karluk, but without date, is almost exactly like the type. But No. 3477 is much more worn, resulting in a much less rusty cast of coloration. A Kadiak Savanna Sparrow in the California Academy of Sciences Collection is quite typical. There are also two skins from Middleton Island and one from Eagle Harbor, Shumagin Islands, all of which are referable to *xanthophrys*. All other Savanna Sparrows from Alaska examined by me are strictly referable to either *alaudinus* or *sandwichensis*. Among about a hundred winter *Ammodrami* from California, Washington and Oregon, I have not found one that can be called *xanthophrys*, though the latter two States present several specimens of *sandwichensis*. However, the Kadiak race is likely to be found wintering somewhere in the vicinity of Puget Sound.

Measurements of *Ammodrami* from Alaska.

	No.	Coll.	Sex	Locality	Wing	D'pth Bill	Culmen.
<i>sandwichensis</i>	3469	L. S. J. U.	♂	Amagnak Is.	3.10	.26	.46
	3466	"	♂	" "	3.06	.26	.45
	3465	"	♂	" "	3.13	.26	.45
	3467	"	♀	" "	2.90	.27	.46
	3464	"	♀?	" "	2.92	.27	.45
<i>xanthophrys</i>	2177	C. A. S.	♂	Kadiak Island	3.00	.24	.41
	3477	L. S. J. U.	♂	" "	2.97	.23	.40
	3638	"	♂?	" "	2.93	.22	.42
	3476	"	♀	" "	2.72	.23	.41
<i>alaudinus</i>	3592	L. S. J. U.	♂	Nutchuk, PWS	2.75	.20	.39
	3620	J. G.	♂	Cape Blossom	2.81	.20	.39
	3618	"	♀	" "	2.62	.19	.39
	3619	"	♀	" "	2.67	.19	.41

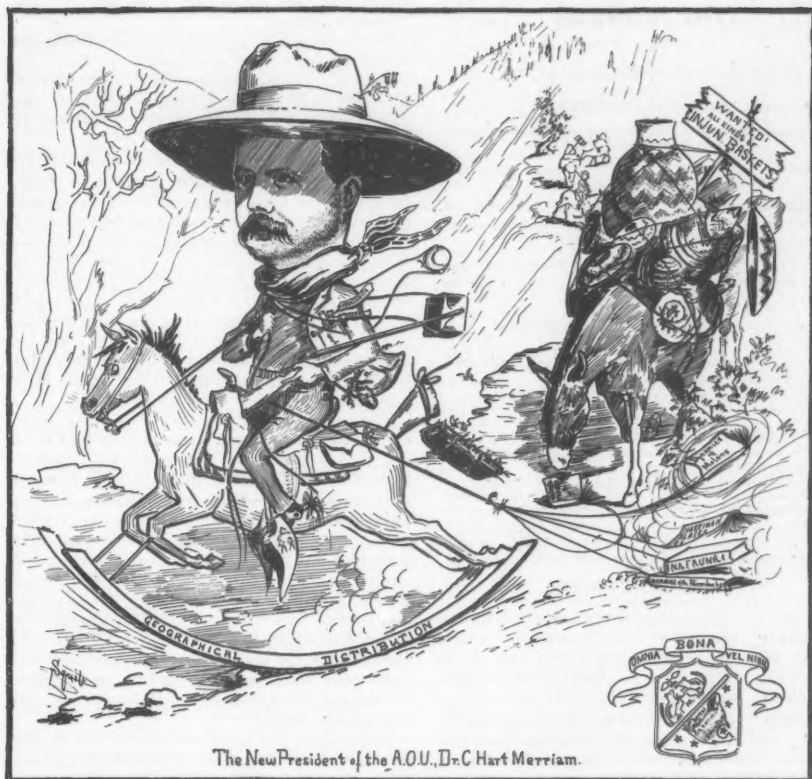
13. *Zonotrichia coronata* (Pall.). Golden-crowned Sparrow.
Juvenile ♀ (full grown), July 19.
- + 14. *Melospiza melodia insignis* (Baird). Bischoff's Song Sparrow.
Three specimens, October and November.
- + 15. *Passerella iliaca insularis* Ridgw. Kadiak Fox Sparrow.
Karluk, two specimens (no date).
- + 16. *Lanius borealis invictus* Grinn. Northwestern Shrike.
Immature ♀, February 28.
- + 17. *Cinclus mexicanus* Swains. American Dipper.
Three specimens, Oct. 19, Nov. 10 and 21.
- + 18. *Parus atricapillus septentrionalis* (Harris). Long-tailed Chickadee.
Eight specimens, October to January. These are not referable to *occidentalis*. The species may possibly here be a winter visitant from northern Alaska, where *septentrionalis* is common in summer and fall.
- + 19. *Hylocichla aonalaschkae* (Gmel.). Dwarf Hermit Thrush.
St. Paul, ♂ adult (No. 3493 Coll. L. S. J. U.), July 17, '97. This specimen is unusually pale and grayish dorsally, almost the shade of *H. aliciae*. This can scarcely be due to abrasion and fading, as the comparison is made with adult equally worn July and August specimens of *aonalaschkae* in my collection from Sitka.

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND.

Eighteen species of birds are in the collection from this region, taken by A. W. Greeley in June and July, 1896.

1. *Gavia lumme* (Gunn.). Red-throated Loon.
Orca, two adult males, July 17 and 19.
2. *Lunda cirrhata* Pall. Tufted Puffin.
Nutchuk, three adult specimens, July 5 and 11.
3. *Brachyramphus marmoratus* (Gmel.). Marbled Murrelet.
Orca, ♂ adult, July 17.
4. *Uria troile californica* (Bryant). California Murre.
Nutchuk, three adult skins, July 5 and 11.
5. *Larus glaucescens* Naum. Glaucous-winged Gull.
Orca, two adults, July 21 and 29.
6. *Phalacrocorax pelagicus robustus* Ridgw. Violet-green Cormorant.
Nutchuk, two adult females, July 5.
7. *Merganser americanus* (Cass.). American Merganser.
Iak Lake, ♀ adult, July 24.
8. *Phalaropus lobatus* (Linn.). Northern Phalarope.
Orca, ♀ adult, June 27.

"SNAP SHOTS AT PROMINENT ORNITHOLOGISTS: NO. I."



The New President of the A.O.U., Dr. C. Hart Merriam.

9. *Tringa minutilla* Vieill. Least Sandpiper.
Nutchuk, ♀ adult, June 30.
10. *Heteractitis incanus* (Gmel.). Wandering Tattler.
Orca, ♀ adult, July 19.
11. *Arenaria melanocephala* (Vig.). Black Turnstone.
Orca, four adults, July 19.
12. *Haematopus bachmani* Aud. Black Oyster-catcher.
Nutchuk, ♂ adult, July 5.
13. *Archibuteo lagopus sancti-johannis* (Gmel.). American Rough-legged Hawk.
Iak Lake, juvenile (full grown), July 24.
- + 14. *Corvus caurinus* Baird. Northwest Crow.
Orca, ♂ juvenile (full grown), July 21.
- 15. *Ammodramus sancti-johannis alaudinus* (Bonap.). Western Savanna Sparrow.
Nutchuk, ♂ adult, July 2.
- + 16. *Passerella iliaca annectens* Ridgw. Yakutat Fox Sparrow.
Nutchuk, eight specimens, June 30 to July 7; Orca, ♂ adult, June 27.
- + 17. *Hirundo erythrogaster* Bodd. Barn Swallow.
Nutchuk, ♂ adult, June 30. This specimen does not appear to answer to the characters assigned by Palmer* to *unalaschensis*. The Alaskan skins I have examined (Kotzebue Sound and Sitka) do not seem to differ on an average in wing measurements and extent of white markings on the tail, from U. S. specimens.
- + 18. *Cinclus mexicanus* Swains. American Dipper.
Iak Lake, ♂ adult, July 23.

*Avifauna of the Pribilofs, l. c.

THE CONDOR.

Bulletin of the

COOPER ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB OF CALIFORNIA.

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and as Official Organ of the Club.

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This issue of The Condor was mailed Jan. 15.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A The Eighteenth Congress of the Greater American Ornithologists' Union A. O. U. proved unusually interesting in results, inasmuch as the proposed changes regulating its membership constitute one of the broadest and most radical moves ever considered by the Union at a single meeting. Previous to this session there seemed nothing to indicate that a general revision of the membership was to follow, but it is apparent from the response according the movement that those closest to the Union had become awakened to the advisability, if not the necessity, of providing in some way for the expansion which has steadily been going on in ornithological ranks during the past decade.

The proposed changes in the by-laws of the Union provide for increasing the number of Active members from 50 to 75 (provided that not more than five members of this class be elected in any one year), these members to be designated as Fellows. An intermediate class, also limited to 75, will be created, to be known as Members, and will include the more advanced workers of the present associate membership. A third class will be known as Associates and will embrace all those members of the Union not included in the two previous classes. Thus an encouraging system of progression is provided, and any ambitious and competent member in the Associate list, may, in proper time and by election, advance to the position of Member, whence, according to

ability and existing vacancies, he may in time become a Fellow.

It is understood that these proposed changes in the By-Laws will be adopted at the 1901 Congress and become operative. We learn that probably 50 Members will be elected from the associate list at that time and that the dues of Members will be fixed at \$4.

This expansion of the Union's membership has produced an indisputable feeling of satisfaction on the Coast, and ornithologists generally must feel that this marks the beginning of an era of increased prosperity for the A. O. U. When those governing the Union have so generously met the demand which an increased interest in the science has created, it becomes the part of those constituting the membership to voice their appreciation of the movement by concerted action in adding new members and by strengthening the fraternal ties which bind together those allied with the Union.

The sentiment of Californians seems aptly expressed in a personal letter to the editor from Mr. F. S. Daggett of Pasadena, Cal., whose loyalty to ornithological work in the state is well known. Mr. Daggett comments as follows: "The action of the A. O. U. in recommending an increase of its 'active' list is a source of much gratification, inasmuch as it shows that the Union is under the control of liberal, broad-minded men who are anxious and willing that the Union shall broaden to meet all legitimate requirements. The ornithologists of the country may rely with perfect confidence upon such a governing body, who, by this act, have done so much to cement all interests in the Union.

"When the new members are chosen, if the Pacific Coast is fortunate enough to receive recognition, I trust the selection will be made only after careful and long deliberation and with the co-operation of our Club. Most of us have no aspirations that way, but we are deeply interested in seeing that the right man is selected, if we are so fortunate as to draw a prize. It is unfortunate that all of the present Active members resident on the Pacific Coast, do not fraternize with the element which has done so much to foster ornithology and bird protection in California during the past few years; else I would suggest that a selection be made upon their recommendation. As it is, I believe that the best results would be obtained by presenting a candidate selected by a full vote of the Club, which includes all the California A. O. U. active members, who are still active in the true sense.

"Of course all this is premature and only based upon the presumption that the A. O. U., in its expansive mood, may confer an honor upon some of our Pacific Coast workers. Whether we receive recognition or not, we certainly can feel that the A. O. U. is a strong, broad body worthy of the hearty support of

every ornithologist in the country, and I am sure that the Cooper Ornithological Club, with its constantly growing influence, will, as heretofore, be its most loyal subject."

The editors take this occasion to extend thanks to Mr. Richard C. McGregor for compiling the index for Vol. II of THE CONDOR, which is sent out with this issue. The index will be found most complete, bird species being indexed by both the common and the scientific names, while each author is credited with all his titles for the year.

With this issue of THE CONDOR, Mr. Walter K. Fisher becomes Associate Editor from the Northern Division, vice Henry Reed Taylor, who finds his time too limited to give the office attention. Mr. Fisher's energy, as well as his knowledge of matters ornithological, will prove him a valuable member of THE CONDOR's staff, and this magazine looks confidently forward to carrying out to some extent during 1901, its ideas of what constitute an ideal ornithological magazine.



"The Way of the Transgressor Is Hard."

In the March-April CONDOR for 1900, we called attention editorially to a circular sent out by one, W. B. Caraway of Alma, Ark., in which he posed as a dealer in song birds. At the end of the circular occurred a paragraph reading as follows: "*We can furnish birds' skins and skins of small animals (native) for taxidermists and millinery purposes in large quantities at reasonable prices.*"

It appears that a copy of THE CONDOR containing the editorial was sent by Mr. Otto Widmann of Old Orchard, Mo. to Mrs. Louise McG. Stephenson, a member of the A. O. U. Committee for the Protection of Birds, residing at Helena, Ark. Mrs. Stephenson writes that previous to this she had written all the circuit judges of Arkansas asking them to charge the grand juries in their circuits with regard to the 'Bird Law Act' which is operative in Arkansas. Among the judges who responded was one residing in the circuit where lives the offender, Caraway.

A copy of THE CONDOR's editorial and some of Mr. Caraway's circulars were sent by Mrs. Stephenson to the judge, who replied that he had given them into his prosecuting attorney's hands. The results are apparent from

the following copy of a letter kindly furnished THE CONDOR by Mrs. Stephenson.

W. B. CARAWAY,

DEALER IN

Living Wild Animals and Birds for Scientific and Propagating Purposes. Pet Stock of All Kinds.

ALMA, ARKANSAS, U. S. A.,

Dec. 1st. 1900.

Mrs. Louise McGowen Stephenson,

Helena, Arkansas.

Dear Madam:—I have to inform you that through your information to Judge J. H. Evans of this, the Crawford County Circuit Court, I was indicted by the Grand Jury for exporting wild birds from this state for which I will have to pay a heavy fine, costs etc.

Now it may have been your duty to have reported me to the court for this but to be plain and honest with you I did not even know there was a law against shipping live birds for breeding or propagating purposes or animals of any kind for this purpose.

I do know that I can get all I want in other states shipped per my orders for breeding &c.

I don't want to violate our laws and am a lawful abiding citizen born and reared in this state, a democrat and a southern man—if you had kindly written me before hand explaining there was a law against shipping birds I of course would have ceased doing so at once. It don't seem to me that I, a stranger, should deserve this kind of treatment from your hands and it is hard for me to pay out money, besides the unpleasant notoriety I get in the matter.

Under the above circumstances I don't believe I would have treated a person like you have me for I believe in that old adage: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

Respectfully,

W. B. CARAWAY.

Arkansas justice and Mrs. Stephenson are to be commended for this valuable effort toward bird protection and Mr. Caraway has very naturally reached that stage where penitence is becoming! But it may be safely assumed that the evidence was ample to warrant a conviction. One of the weak points in Mr. Caraway's plea is that he ascribes his conviction to exporting wild birds from out of his state. This evidently does not constitute the most serious offense of which he was guilty, for his offer to supply the millinery trade "in large quantities at reasonable prices" must be taken as evidence of his willingness to execute any possible orders in this line. Wherefore, his conviction is a step in the right direction.

A Bird Protection Bill for California.

Following is a draft of the protective Bird Bill which was prepared by the Cooper Ornithological Club, and put in legal shape by Senator Edward K. Taylor of Alameda. The bill will be introduced in the California State Legislature which convened Jan. 7, by Senator Taylor and its successful passage is confidently hoped for. The bill received the endorsement of the California Fruit Growers' Convention and numerous Granges and Farmers' Clubs, and should it become a law California may well congratulate itself upon taking rank with the foremost bird protection states of the Union. The bill reads as follows:

An Act to amend the Penal Code by adding a new section to Title XV thereof, to be numbered six hundred and thirty-seven and one-half, providing for the protection of wild birds and their eggs and nests.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

A new section is hereby added to the Penal Code and to Title XV thereof, to be numbered six hundred and thirty-seven and one-half, as follows:

Section 637½. Every person who shall, in the State of California, take, gather or destroy the eggs or nests of, or hunt, shoot, shoot at, take, kill or destroy, buy, sell, give away or have in his possession any wild bird (except those species designated, generally known, and already protected as game birds), or who shall expose or have in his possession for sale, any part of the plumage, skin or body of any bird so protected, except as hereinafter provided, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor; provided further, that nothing in this section shall prohibit the killing of the English Sparrow at any time, by anybody, or prohibit the killing of any bird, except by means of poison, by the owner or tenant of any premises where such bird is found destroying berries, fruits or crops growing on such premises.

Certificates may be granted by any incorporated society of natural history within the state, through such persons or officers as said society may designate, to any properly accredited person of fifteen years or upward, permitting the holder thereof to collect birds, their nests or eggs, for strictly scientific purposes only, or to keep native birds alive for study. The certificates authorized by this section shall be in force one year only from the date of their issue and shall not be transferable. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

A CLUB PRESENTATION.

At the meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Club held in San Jose, Jan. 12, Mr. W. Otto Emerson retired from the presidency

after three years of continuous service in that office. At an appropriate moment Mr. H. R. Taylor arose and embodied in a brief speech the valuable results which the club had accomplished during Mr. Emerson's administration. As a token of esteem, and appreciation of his services Mr. Taylor, upon behalf of the Northern Division, presented the popular ex-president with an inscribed copy of Ridgway's Manual. The inscription read as follows: "Presented to W. Otto Emerson by the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club of California, in appreciation of his valuable and energetic services as president through three consecutive terms of office, and as a tribute to his loyal efforts in behalf of the Club's Bird Protection Bill. Jan. 12, 1901."

EIGHTEENTH A. O. U. CONGRESS.

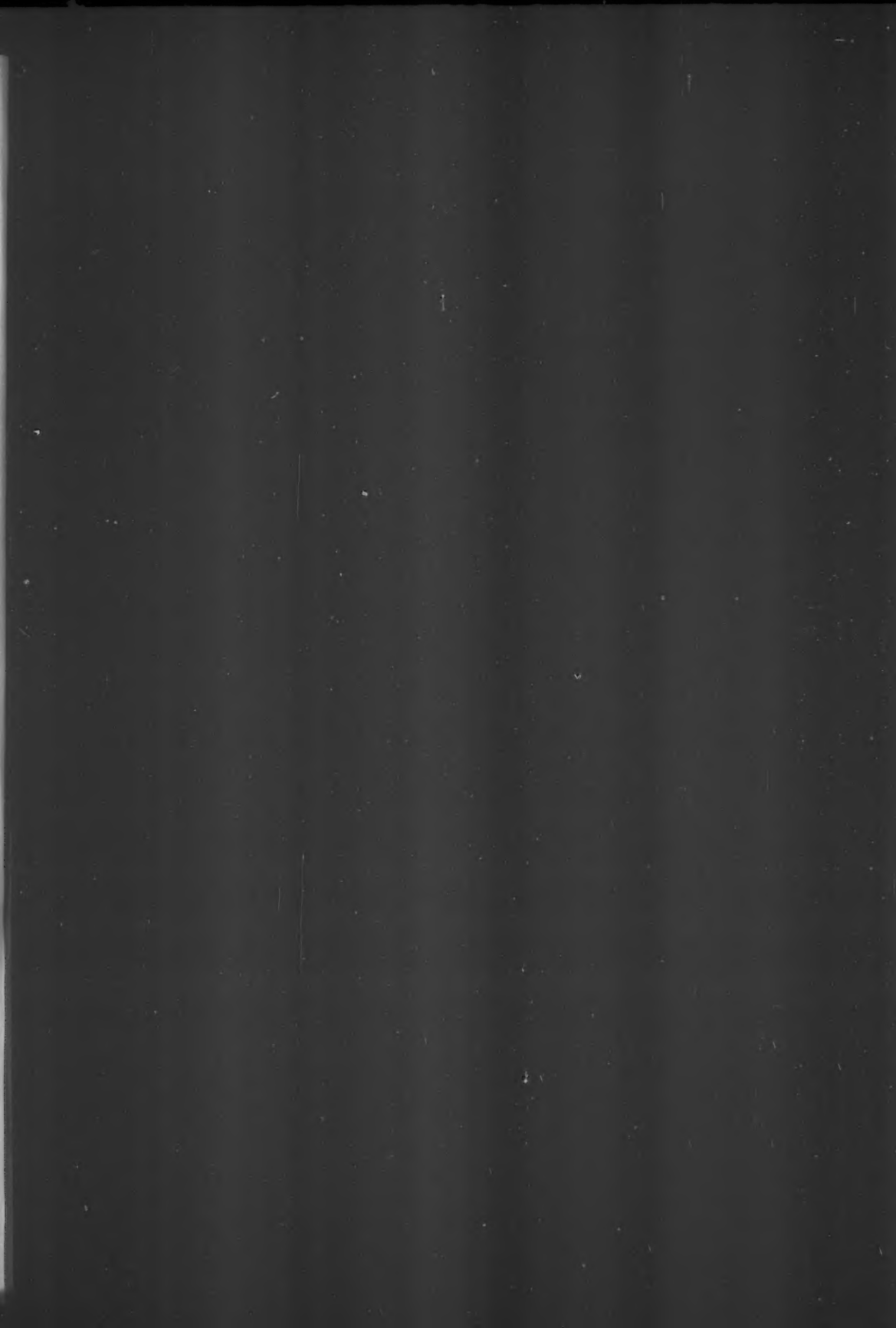
The Annual Congress of the American Ornithologists Union convened in the University Museum at Cambridge, Mass. from Nov. 13-15. On the program were twenty titles, embracing many excellent and interesting subjects in ornithology. A number of papers were illustrated by lantern slides and the session was, withal, one of the most interesting yet held by the Union. The Eighteenth Congress will be remembered more particularly because of the movement proposed to regulate the membership of the Union; the proposed action is referred to in another column.

The Petrel is the title of a bright 16-page monthly magazine on ornithology edited and published by John M. Martin of Palestine, Oregon, the initial issue bearing the date of January, 1901. The magazine is neatly printed, and a number of interesting articles, principally of an oological trend, make up the contents of the number, being supplemented with several interesting half-tones of nests and eggs. Judging from its widely-distributed list of contributors, *The Petrel* will not restrict itself to any limited field and we trust that success may attend its career. Mr. Martin is well known as former publisher of the *Oregon Naturalist*. Subscription 50 cents.

"Bird-Lore" Notice.

I wish to announce that owing to Charles Keeler's unexpected departure on a prolonged cruise in the Pacific, Lyman Belding will continue, from the standpoint of Stockton, the series of articles on California bird-life of which Mr. Keeler had contributed one number to "Bird-Lore." I also desire lists of extra numbers of "Bird-Lore" which subscribers may have for disposal.

FRANK M. CHAPMAN,
Englewood, N. J. EDITOR.



Exchange Notices.

221 1-9, 337½, 337b½, 339 2-2, 423 n-4, 388½, 507 n-5, 577 n-4, 529 n-5, 608 ¼, n-3, 619 1-5, 624 n-4, 627 n-4, 674 1-5, 687 n-4, 710½ and others. Also a few mounted birds to exchange for first-class sets.

VERDI BURTCH, Penn Yan, N. Y.

TO EXCHANGE: Chinese insects and butterflies for eggs in sets with data. Address MILTON S. RAY, 44 Market St., San Francisco, Cal.

WANTED:—No. 3 of the "Avifauna" magazine, published at Santa Barbara in September, 1897 by W. H. Hoffman. Address WITMER STONE, Academy of Nat. Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.

WANTED:—WILL PAY CASH for Albinos, either birds or small animals. Write me what you have and condition, as also lowest cash price. J. E. GROSJEAN, Lima, Ohio. 2t

FOR EXCHANGE. New 4x5 "Korona Special" camera and set of Nehrling's ampliscopes; together or separately. Wanted, rare sets of egg. THOS. H. JACKSON, 343 E. Biddle St., Westchester, Pa.

COLLECTORS' ATTENTION:—I have something which every collector of eggs needs. A liquid which will mend an egg so that it is almost impossible to detect fractures, forming a perfectly transparent film which is very strong. I will send a phial for every 50 cents worth of first-class sets with data sent me. Address: CLARENCE H. LUTHER, Fayetteville Ark. Box 322.

WANTED: Vol. 1, No. 3 (May-June, 1899) of the *Bulletin of the Cooper Ornithological Club*. Can offer Vol. 1, No. 1 or cash. Address, A. H. HOWELL, Dept. Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

WANTED:—in exchange for cash, sets or skins, *Recreation*, Jan., Feb. and March 1899 numbers, one of each. Address, D. A. COHEN, Alameda, Cal.

EXCHANGE—I have many Alaskan Birds' Eggs, in first class sets and singles with data, to exchange for well-made Bird Skins from any locality. I want in particular, Wrens, Chickadees, Juncos and Song Sparrows. Send Lists. JOSEPH GRINNELL, Palo Alto, Calif.

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From this same stand point THE OÖLOGIST's rank among publications devoted not only to Ornithology but Natural History as well, is identical to that of the *COUNTRY GENTLEMEN* among agricultural publications.

THE OÖLOGIST has very few half-tones and contains only 16 pages each issue—one-half of which are advertising.


During the past fifteen years, (THE OÖLOGIST's age) many superior "Bird" publications and scores of inferior ones have dropped by the way. THE OÖLOGIST, however, is still issued each month and a sample copy of a recent issue can always be obtained by addressing a postal to

Frank H. Lattin, Publisher.
Albion, N. Y.

Notes on Rhode Island Ornithology

A Quarterly Publication for the Furtherance of Interest in Ornithology in Rhode Island: Published and Edited by Reginald Heber Howe, Jr., from Bristol, R. I. Editor's Office, Longwood, Brookline, Mass., where all communications should be addressed.

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BIRD LORE FOR 1901.

BIRD-LORE's special aim during the coming year will be to assist teachers and students of birds by telling them just what to study and just what to teach at the proper season. It will, therefore, publish a series of articles, on the birds of a number of localities, including the vicinity of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and San Francisco. To these will be added 'Suggestions for the Months' Study' and 'Suggestions for the Months' Reading.' The whole thus forms a definite plan of study which, it is believed, will be of the utmost value to the instructor, to the independent observer, and to bird-clubs and natural history societies. In this connection much assistance will be rendered by BIRD-LORE's *Advisory Council*, composed of over fifty prominent ornithologists, residing throughout the United States and Canada, who have consented to respond to requests for information and advice.

While a number of the more general articles of the year will bear on the months' subject for study, there will also be contributions of wide popular interest, among the more important of which may be mentioned an address on Audubon, by Dr. Elliott Cones; letters written by Audubon in 1827; John Burroughs' list of his rare bird visitors; Frank M. Chapman's fully illustrated account of a bird-nesting expedition with the genial naturalist; Ernest Seton-Thompson's 'How to Know the Hawks and Owls' (illustrated); Tudor Jenks' 'From an Amateur's Point of View'; T. S. Palmer's 'Ostrich Farming in America' (illustrated); F. A. Lucas' 'Birds of Walrus Island,' with remarkable illustrations; H. W. Henshaw's 'Impressions of Hawaiian Birds'; C. Will Beebe's illustrated account of some of the birds under his charge at the New York Zoological Garden, and an important paper on 'Bird Protection in Great Britain,' by Montagu Sharpe, chairman of the English Society for the Protection of Birds.

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